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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

27 AUGUST 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Aptos – Campus 'Threat' Prompts Extra Deputies at High School

(U) Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office deputies were made aware of a potential threat to Aptos High School by a student, which prompted extra security on the campus yesterday. Deputies were able to track down the 14-year-old male student, who was interviewed in-depth, and it was determined his social media threat was meant as a joke with no intention to carry out any harmful acts, according to the sheriff's office. The post did not contain a threat of violence, deputies searched the student's home and verified that he did not have access to weapons, according to the sheriff's office. SOURCE: 26 August 2019, Patch

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Three Children Shot To Death in Border City

(U) Ciudad Juarez – Prosecutors in the northern Mexico border city of Ciudad Juarez say a gang of gunmen shot to death a man and three girls aged four, 13 and 14, leaving behind 123 spent bullet casings. Prosecutors in northern Chihuahua State said yesterday that the gunmen also apparently kidnapped another man from the family's home. The attackers fled following the killings on the outskirts of the city.

SOURCE: 27 August 2019, ABC News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Montana – Terrorism Suspect Planning To Change Plea

(U) Bozeman – A man arrested for sympathizing with terrorist groups is scheduled to change his plea this week. Court documents say Fabjan Alameti is set for a 28 August hearing to change his plea in federal court. A plea agreement says Alameti will plead guilty to two counts of making a false statement to a federal officer in a matter involving terrorism. Each count carries a maximum sentence of 8 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Investigators say Alameti wanted to fight for ISIS and attack people to avenge the New Zealand mosque shooting.

SOURCE: 26 August 2019, ABC Fox Montana

(U) New York - Man Walks into Bronx Mosque, Asks For Help Committing Attack on Police Station

(U) New York City – Police are looking for a man accused of walking into a mosque in the Bronx on Sunday and asking the imam for help in executing an attack on a police precinct, according to the NYPD. Authorities said the unidentified man entered the Bronx Muslim Center Sunday. According to police, the man approached the mosque's imam and requested assistance from the imam in committing an act of terror against a police precinct.

SOURCE: 27 August 2019, WPIX

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(U) Pennsylvania - Feds seek death penalty in Pittsburgh synagogue massacre

(U) Pittsburgh – A man charged with killing 11 people in a Pittsburgh synagogue should face the death penalty if convicted, according to federal prosecutors. The US attorney's office in Pittsburgh filed a notice of intent to seek the death penalty against 46-year-old Robert Bowers in last year's attack. The government filing said justification for a death sentence included allegations of substantial planning and premeditation, the vulnerability and number of victims, and a motivation of religious hostility. It also listed the injury, harm and loss caused to the victims and choice of attack location. SOURCE: 26 August 2019, AP

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan - Taliban Threaten Government-Owned Telecommunications Company

(U) The Taliban released an official statement threatening to target the employees and physical properties of government-owned telecommunications company Salaam. The group stated that the company had been conducting intelligence activities against the Taliban on behalf of the Afghan government, and warned the company to cease its activities. The Taliban statement also threatened to target customers of Salaam for supporting the company.

SOURCE: 27 August 2019, TOLO News

(U) Australia – Government to Block Websites Hosting Terror Content During Attacks

(U) Canberra – Websites and social media companies that host terrorist material during attacks will be blocked, Australian officials have said. The government plans to crack down on extremists exploiting digital platforms to post violent content, and it is considering bringing in legislation to force the platforms to improve safety. The goal of the effort is to deny terrorists the opportunity to glorify their crimes, according to officials.

SOURCE: 27 August 2019, Sky News

(U) Germany - German Right-Wing Extremists Planned 'Hunt' of Migrants: Reports

(U) Chemintz – New details have emerged in the investigation into the August 2018 demonstrations in Chemnitz that show extreme right-wing individuals made specific plans to "hunt" migrants and foreign-looking individuals. On 26 August, a German national was killed in a stabbing in Chemnitz. Non-German nationals were suspected of the crime, with a 23-year-old Syrian national recently convicted of manslaughter in the crime. The stabbing led to a week of far-right protests in the city that drew neo-Nazis from across Germany and saw migrants or foreign-looking individuals chased in the streets. SOURCE: 27 August 2019, DW

(U) United Kingdom – Government Probes Qatari-Owned Bank Due To Terrorism Links

(U) London – Qatari regime-owned bank, Al Rayan, operating in the United Kingdom with ties to the US-and EU-classified terrorist entity Hamas, has been placed under investigation for financial crimes, including money laundering. Al Rayan notified its shareholders this year that its "anti-money laundering [AML] processes and controls have been placed under formal review by the Financial Conduct Authority [FCA], which has led to ongoing investment in enhanced AML processes." The bank is suspected of having ties with both Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood.

SOURCE: 26 August 2019, Jerusalem Post

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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